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GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, NOVLMBER 4, 1837.

The Times.

Nothing furnishes a more fruitful theme for speculation and comment than the times; every one has his cause, and every one his panacea for the evils under which we are suffering. The political economist has his dreams on the subject, and does not rest content until his reveries are embodied in a pamphlet and stitched in blue. The politician, the great man at ward meetings and town caucusses, has his opinions too of the matter, and descants most learnedly on the course of trade, banks, currency, overtrading and speculation. The congressional orator is another man who is most eloquent and pathetic on the times. He will "'spound" you six hours at a sitting, and cares not whether his audience wakes or sleeps,so long as the reporter does not nod, and he is sure of having his speech go down to immortality and his constituents, in the journals of the day. Such being the fashion, we see no reason why we, who, in the columns of the Farmer, are wedded to no party; who write for that body of our citizens which are the most numerous and industrious, the one which feeds and clothes all the rest; we whose object is to make "two blades of grass grow where but one grew before," and whose end and aim is to promote the greatest happiness of the greatest possible number, may not also be allowed our say and be indulged with the privilege occasionally of making known our sentiments on the state of the times.

With regard to the causes which have brought about such a general revulsion in our affairs, it *now* matters but little, any further than the necessity of regarding them as beacons to warn us against any course in the future, that may tend to similar results. We are willing that each individual should have his cause for the troubles of the country, if it shall lead him to avoid hereafter the indulgence of the course or practice he now reprobates. It is in vain now to rail at overtrading, or overspeculation, or overbanking; one thing alone seems perfectly clear, and that is, this country for a few years past has overdone every thing it has undertaken, except overproducing. Here we have fallen miserably short; and it is to this point, whatever may be the course pursued, every exposition of the causes of our present distresses ultimately tends. The producing classes, the real creators of individual and national wealth have decreased, while the consumers, those who live on the labor of others, have greatly increased. Every individual who buys more than he sells, is in the road to ruin; and this remark is equally true of nations.

It has been proved by evidence that cannot be controverted or mistaken, that the appearances of prosperity visible in our country for some two or three years past, were not real but fictitious; they were not founded on actual value; the absolute wealth of the country had increased it is true, but the actual increase in value bore but a small proportion to the nominal rise of property. It was not founded on the produce of the earth, the seas, manufactures, or the legitimate pursuits of commerce. The prosperity was based on debt—debt to foreign powers, debt to the banks, and debts to one another. We placed ourselves completely in the power of others, and the result was what must have been anticipated by every reflecting mind, a general commercial and financial catastrophe.

In these troublesome times, however, the farmer, the bona fide owner and cultivator of the soil, has suffered the least of any. Nothing furnishes a more instructive commentary on the word *necessaries* of life, than such occasional depressions of trade and stagnation of business. As the purse gradually shortens, the necessaries of life shrink in number with amazing rapidity. The new coat and hat once a month, which so lately were counted among the necessaries, are now classed with the bottle of Madeira at dinner, the carriage and grays for the afternoon airing, and the French cook for the kitchen, with the *luxuries* of life, and parted with accordingly. It has surprised many to find how few the actual necessaries of life were. "Having food and raiment, therewith be content," is a lesson of inspiration, never so thoroughly taught, or learned, by a large part of our citizens, as in times like the present.

The producer of the necessaries of life has had little to complain of as yet. People must eat; and the grower and seller of wheat, corn, beef, pork, mutton, butter, and cheese, has not found any very serious inroad made upon his purse. The producer of materials for clothing, such as the cotton and wool grower, has fared harder, as well as the manufacturer; as the nature of things is such that there is more superfluous clothing than food, and retrenchment usually begins in the former. Pride will maintain a powerful struggle with the stomach, it is true, for a while; but the latter in the end is always victorious.

The crisis, however, of the present revulsion, may we think be considered as past. The weak have already fallen; most men will now be able at least to remain as they are. Confidence is beginning to be restored, for our commercial and foreign debt is rapidly diminishing, and that draft on our prosperity removed, commerce and trade will revive, slowly perhaps, but surely, and prices, if they shall not reach the extravagant ones of a year or two past, will be firmer and less fluctuating. Let it never be forgotten, that the great cause of the present state of things here, and the origin of no inconsiderable part of our foreign debt,was the necessity of importing grain from abroad to supply one of the first agricultural countries in the world with bread. It belongs to farmers to see that such a necessity does not *again occur*. The smiles of a kind Providence have again caused our granaries to overflow, and we trust that no human precaution or exertion will be wanting to prevent their being again emptied in future years.

One word as to what we consider a serious mistake on the part of our friends, the New-York merchants. We frequently notice articles in the papers of that city, stating in effect, that if the *farmers* would pay what they were owing to the country merchants, these could at once liquidate their accounts in the city, and thus all would be well. We know not how it may be in other parts of the country, or in other states, but we claim to have some acquaintance with the *farmers* of Western New-York, and we do not hesitate to say, that in our opinion, at no time since the settlement of this region, have the farmers been less indebted to the merchants than at the present moment. Every thing has conspired to produce this result. The produce of their farms has never failed of commanding a good price; the cry of hard times from every quarter for the last eight or ten months has put them on their guard against purchasing on credit; and retrenchment has to a considerable extent been introduced into most families. The truth is, and we think the unanimous voice of our village or country merchants will confirm our impression, that fewer goods have been sold the last half year than in any former period of the same length since 1818. The consequence is, instead of the farmers being indebted to the merchants as usual, the goods purchased last fall and spring have not been sold, but a large portion of them still remain on the hands of the first purchaser at that city. We have such an opinion of the utility of that article in the creed of every good farmer, that directs him to "*owe no man*," that we are willing he who deviates from it should be occasionally dunned; but we must in behalf of the farmers of Western New-York, enter our protest against this dunning *en masse*, as not only contrary to justice, but unfounded in the reason assigned.

Horses.

By the general consent of mankind it seems to be conceded that the horse is the most noble, useful, and beautiful of animals. Kind, docile, and even affectionate in their dipositions, there is no animal, the dog perhaps excepted, that is so closely attached to his master, and appears so well to understand even his wishes, as the horse. We never felt disposed to blame, or ridicule, the expressions of fondness an Arab will bestow upon his favorite mare; one that has been an inmate of his tent, as it were for perhaps twenty or thirty years; one that has carried him safe through all his exploits of thieving and robbing without faltering or stumbling; one that knows his voice among a thousand, and in any situation will come at his bidding, always meeting gracefully his caresses, or bearing him off in flight proudly and safely.

But when the commendation of being the most noble and beautiful of animals was given the horse, those who bestowed the epithet must we think have had in view the finer specimens of the race, rather than the miserable hangneck, poverty-stricken skeletons, that are miscalled horses, and meet one in such countless numbers at every turn in our country. For some years past our farmers seem to have been seized with a mania for breeding horses; mares have been condemned to bear colts *sans intermission;* no matter how mean she may have been, or how completely unqualified to bring a good colt, the owner has satisfied himself by repeating the adage that a bad cow may have a good calf; and the consequence has been, that, while cattle have sadly decreased in numbers, worthless horses are eating up the substance and prosperity of multitudes of our farmers.

A man who loves a good horse, and who does not? has his feelings sadly tried by the droves of "villainous, spavined, foundered, narragansct pacers" or trotters, that he is compelled to meet, let him go where he will; animals utterly worthless, except perhaps to drag a plough or a wagon about the farm for a few days in a year, and the remainder of the time a dead weight upon the hands of the owner. A good horse will always sell well.—Perhaps there is no species of property less liable to fluctuation or depreciation in value, than a good horse. But what in this respect are horses in general? Take one hundred of the first horses you meet on our farms, old and young, and what think you they would bring a head, if sold under the hammer for cash? and they will bring cash in no other way. Ten, fifteen, or twenty dollars on an average, perhaps; and yet these scape goats have cost their owners, in rearing, nearly as much as horses that would average one hundred dollars each.

The plain truth is, we have too many horses by one-third, and those we have are too poor by one-half; and when we undertake to make sales of them we find such to be the fact. Such horses run the farmer in debt; they do not pay the expense of raising, or any where near it, and the sooner this truth is realized, the better for all. Now let no farmer who is burdened with old or worthless horses say to himself on reading this—"It is true I have more horses than I want, or than is profitable to keep over the winter, and I must get rid of two or three of the oldest. There is neighbor A and B they have no horses, and they sometimes come to me for one; to prevent lending them one fit for service I will give old Spitfire to A and Herod to B." If a man has a particle of honor in his constitution, or carries such a thing as a conscience in his bosom, he will go to his neighbor and steal from him his last ten dollars, his only bushel of wheat, or his children's loaf of bread, before he will inflict upon him such a curse as the gift of an old horse. We know there are multitudes of poor men, who can

with great difficulty provide bread, who have a great pen chant for a horse, and will accept of one as old and helpless as their grandfather, work hard to keep the breath of life in it through the winter, when they should be better employed, and finally before spring comes, be obliged to consign the animal to the crows. If you have an old horse who is past service, the good he has done you deserves a better recompense than the tender mercies of a drunken ragamuffin, or the starvation of a poor man's lot. Kill him, bui do not give him away to be abused or starved. Kill him, and make a mound over him of lime, vegetable matter and earth, which will prevent all offensive smell, and furnish a few loads of the very best manure; or cut him into small pieces and bury him in the ground where most wanted, certain that his flesh will produce an immediate, and his bones a lasting benefit to the soil. A pig is worth more to a poor man than a horse; and a good cow which will not cost so much in keeping as a horse, is worth a dozen. Let every man who is tempted to obtain or keep superannuated horse flesh, remember this.

Spread of the Canada Thistle.

Some little observation of the situation of the crops, and the state of farms, the present season, has convinced us that from no cause is there more serious ground of alarm, or more danger to be apprehended to the farming interest, than from the spread of this pernicious weed. Almost every where was it to be seen, throwing up its prickly spires and red blossoms, overtopping the wheat and oats, and in many cases holding no mean rivalry with the corn; and at a later period, before the grain was fit to cut, the thistle had ripened its millions of seeds, and these on their downy wings were spreading far and near, ready to spring up the first moment they should by accident, or by the plough, be buried in the earth. In pastures they may not become so formidable as in ploughed ground, but their thick low tops prevent the growth of grass, or if a few leaves of clover or roots of herdsgrass now and then occupy a vacant place, what creature having a proper regard for animal comfort or the safety of his nose, would venture into such a spot to get a mouthful, unless compelled to the measure by the direst necessity of avoiding starvation. The only place where the thistle produces little injury, or rather the place where it produces the least, for in no case can it be otherwise than injurious, is in the meadow, where it is mown every year. In such places it does not ripen its seed, and it spreads comparatively little among the roots of the grasses, while the close mowing it receives is precisely the kind calculated, when frequently enough repeated, to check, if not to exterminate the plant.

We are fully convinced that our farmers must turn over a new leaf in their treatment of this formidable enemy, or in many cases, and is there not some reason to fear eventually in all, the soil must be partially or entirely, surrendered to its indisputed usurpation. The seeds germinate and gain new foothold every where, and every year witnesses the establishment of thousands of new patches; while owing to the supineness of the owners of the soil, or rather as is probable in many cases, the great amount of labor to be performed, very few of these patches are totally eradicated, and the inevitable consequence is, the weed is gaining on us at every point.

What is the manner in which we treat our grounds at present covered with the Canada thistle? If in a meadow, we mow them when we cut our grass, make them into hay, and trouble ourselves no more about them. If in a pasture we mow them perhaps once in a season; but we know at the time, that not once in a thousand instances of such mowing will the thistle be killed, yet we rest satisfied if we can keep it from seeding, and imagine we have done wonders, where the plant is making way underground, at the rate of eight or ten feet a year on every side. If the thistle is in ploughland, we plough it once, or perhaps twice, just enough to do what a professed gardener would do who wished to rapidly propagate, a plant, that is, to divide the roots and scatter them well but not enough to kill a single one of them. We commence with a patch of the size of a parlor, and under our mode of treatment, ere we are aware, it has spread over an acre. On land so ploughed, we sow our wheat, our barley, or our oats; and nine times out of ten we find our crops choked and smothered by this rank and rapid growing weed. It is true we sometimes clip the luxuriant shoots of the enemy, before the earing out of the grain, and this is a praiseworthy act so far, but the stem below will throw out new shoots, and these if vigorous, will frequently still overtake and overtop the more slowly ripening grain. At any rate, by these modes of proceeding—and we ask our farming friends whether these are not in general the modes adopted in treating the thistle—"the snake is only scotched, not killed;" the growth of the plant for a season may be checked, but its permananey is unimpaired.

What then is to be done?—and what is the manner in which we should treat our thistle grounds? The answer is, so as to *kill the plant*, let the trouble be what it may. Better to let our lands remain unproductive for a year; better to hire an extra hand whose sole business shall be to attend to their destruction, than by our anxiety to raise what can scarcely be more than half a crop, every year, shut out thorough ploughing, or be so driven by farm labor, as to have no time to attend to thistles. We are in too great a haste to be rich in this matter as well as many others, and sacrifice a future certain good to a little present profit. We have reason to believe the Creator has not made a single plant that cannot be destroyed, though some of them have apparently as many lives as a cat, and the thistle is one of this number; still, this may be killed without difficulty if taken in season, or if pursued with vigor and determination, at any period of its existence.

The great secret in the destruction of noxious plants, is, never to let them form leaves, or in other words, never to let them breath. Leaves are the respiratory organs of plants; they separate and prepare for nutrition the carbonic, hydrogen, and oxygen gasses of the atmosphere; for these substances, simple as they are, constitute almost the only ingredients that enter into the infinite variety of products found in the vegetable kingdom. If this process is interrupted in any way, the plant suffers; if the formation of leaves is effectually prevented, the root, and of course the whole plant perishes. No matter by what method this is done, but if done as it should be, the object is sure to be accomplished.

But there must be no slighting of the work; no scattering stalks left to serve as conductors of vitality to the roots; no young plants to show their heads under the protection of a stump, a stone, or to peep through the crevices of a stone wall, must be left to furnish the nucleus of a new set of roots, and thus surely overthrow the hope of their extermination. Where but a small spot of ground is occupied by the thistle, the hoe, and if a sharp and narrow edged one, so much the better, will be found usually sufficient to destroy them; but the infected district should be frequently examined, and every shoot that appears instantly decapitated. Where large spaces are covered, the plough must be relied on, but it must be applied in a very different way from what it usually is by our farmers, or ploughing will be an injury instead of a benefit so far as the thistle is concerned. If the land is intended for wheat, begin in the spring, and follow the thistle with the plough as often as it appears above the surface through the summer, or until the time for sowing arrives. One or two of the first ploughings will produce little effect, or rather they will do what the common method of ploughing the thistle usually does, make them shoot up more vigorously; but when the roots begin to feel the effects of exhaustion, and there are no leaves to supply the want, the plants will grow fewer and less vigorous at each ploughing, until all are dead. If you begin with a field, do not spare time nor team till the work is done; better to plough the land ten times, than to leave the field not purified, though from four to seven times is usually effective in destroying them.

Self-interest should induce us all, particularly land owners, and cultivators of the soil, to enter upon this work with spirit and perseverance, as a certain and rapid decline in the price of lands overrun with the thistle must ensue. Lands have been sold for twenty-five dollars an acre, which if free from the thistle would have commanded forty. We should not deem it probable from the ascertained effects of frequent ploughing up the earth that a *great* crop of wheat or indeed any thing else could be reasonably expected from land treated so as to subdue the thistle, unless the soil was very rich and of a good depth; but the question of a single crop, should never for a moment be permitted to interfere with any process that promises the destruction of the Canada thistle. We much doubt whether a town in northern or western New York has escaped invasion; and in much the largest part of this territory, there is scarce a farm upon which it has not obtained a foothold.

Fall Feeding Meadows.

There is a practice quite current among many farmers, and some too that are 'well to do' in their employment, of shutting up their meadows after mowing until they are covered with a good growth of young grass, and then turning their horses and cattle into them, allow them to be fed as close as possible. Is this course a correct one? In our opinion it is not; and we shall give a few reasons for our belief. We do not object to the shutting up after mowing; this is right, and it always pains a good farmer to see a drove of cows or horses turned in to a new mown lot without giving the roots time to recover from the shock which all vegetables must receive when their leaves are taken off at once. The practice we object to is close feeding so late that the grass can have no opportunity to grow, before the checking of vegetation by the frosts of winter. In the first place it is necessary to the health and growth of the roots of all plants, and the meadow grasses do not form an exception, that the leaves should have a chance of preparing the nutriment required by the stem or the roots, and a time to deposite it in those places and for those purposes for which nature intended the circulation of the sap. Unless this object is accomplished in the course of the season, it is evident an injurious effect is produced on the root, and as the first prepared nutriment is taken off in the first mowing and retained in the hay, it is evident unless the second growth is either wholly or partially suffered to remain, this important function of vegetable life cannot be performed.

In the second place, where the second growth is fed off as closely as is frequently done, not only are the roots injured by being deprived of their proper nourishment, but they are divested of a covering of dried and withered grass which does much to prevent the fatal action of frosts on the naked roots of plants exposed to their influence. Every one acquainted with gardening, knows the great benefit some rather delicate plants derive during the severe frosts of our winters, from only having a few dry leaves or green hemlock twigs laid securely over their crown; and we frequently hear farmers detailing the great benefit pieces of fall sown wheat have derived from a thin covering of straw spread over their surface. But by late feeding, all these advantages are lost, and that too at a time when such a shield would be most valuable, as the appearance of our clover and timothy fields too often testifies.

There is another reason which should have great weight with a farmer, and induce him to pause before he turns his animals into his meadow, if, as is often the case the soil is moist, or inclining to clay, and that is the serious injury the roots and the ground both receive from the poaching of feet. We have seen meadows so trod up in the fall and spring that half the grass roots seemed crushed irrecoverably into the earth, and the surface remained through the season so rough that decent mowing was out of the question, and a great deduction was of necessity made from the hay crop. Going over meadow grounds at the opening of spring with a roller may in part remove these obstructions on the surface, and may in nearly all cases be performed with advaatage; a harrowing with a light sharp harrow, as soon as the ground is sufficiently consolidated to admit such an operation, will, by loosening the surface earth benefit the meadow, but these things are entirely different in principle and effect from gnawing the grass level with the earth, or

treading the surface into the resemblance of a brick-yard.

Too many farmers adopt a course in the management of their farms, that renders them every year scantied for pasture, and nearly every season short of winter feed. Nothing can justify any man in undertaking to keep more animals of any kind than he can keep well. If he suffers them to get a living by running at large, they become a curse to his neighbors; if he starves them through the winter at home, he himself should serve an apprenticeship of a fortnight to the lean god, on half allowance of bread and water. The man who cultivates roots, may with safety keep a greater number of cattle on a small quantity of land; and this kind of cultivation is the true remedy for the evils of which we complain. A few calves, or lambs, or perhaps somewhat earlier, a fattening animal or two may be put into a meadow without much injury; but no animal should be permitted to graze it close, or remain in it after the ground becomes softened by the late fall rains.

It would seem that nothing short of actual starvation would induce a farmer to allow animals to run on his meadow lands in the spring, poaching the soil, and gnawing the half uncovered roots; yet there are few sights more common than meadows covered in the spring with sheep and cattle, perpetrating the very mischiefs we have indicated. The excuse is, our sheep and cows must have some green food to enable them to yield milk for their young, and hence the just vegetating grass roots are made a sacrifice. A few hundred bushels of roots, ruta baga, beet, or carrot, which may be raised on a small space of ground, will nullify such an excuse, and remove every pretext to such an unprofitable occupation of the meadow.

Corn.

Some new varieties, or improved kinds of corn appear at the present time to be attracting the notice of cultivators, and which promise well as acquisitions to the farmer. The value of corn as a general crop, and the importance to the agriculturist of selecting the best kinds, have given great interest to every attempt to improve this valuable grain. One kind which is only an improvement on the common variety, is the Baden corn noted for its number of ears on a single stalk, frequently producing six or eight, and we have seen notices of two stalks grown in highly manured and cultivated ground at Washington the past summer, that gave twenty four ears, or twelve each. This valuable property of producing a number of ears, is the result of a continued series of experiments commenced more than twenty years since by Mr. Baden of Maryland, who invariably selected for seed those ears growing on stalks producing two or more ears, and thus what at first seemed the merest accident has become nature to the plant. This corn has been introduced into the rich prairies of Indiana and Illinois, and from the heavy crop produced, and the superior value of the grain must be considered of immense value to the west. We know of no more beautiful illustration of the improvement to be made in common things by well directed and persevering effort, than this corn of Mr. Baden's; unless indeed the still longer continued efforts and equal success of Van Mons in the culture of fruit should be deemed an exception.

Another new variety is what is called the Winnebago corn, and was introduced to notice by Mr. Ellsworth, the Indian commissioner to the North Western tribes. It very much resembles the Baden corn in the number of its ears; and the Baltimore Farmer imagines that by some mistake it has been attributed to a wrong origin, and that it is the identical Baden corn. The Winnebago corn has, however, been grown from time immemorial in the Indian country; and there is, we think, no more reason to consider the Winnebago the Baden, than vice versa.

There is still another kind principally grown on the south shore of Lake Superior, which has been noticed by travelers, and lately in some of the farming journals of the country. This variety shoots up a number of stalks from a single root like the grasses, or wheat and barley, each stalk bearing at its end a single ear, as we sometimes now witness in suckers of the common corn.—For the sake of distinction it has been called the Lake Superior corn; like the Winnebago, it is a hardy, early variety, ears of course small, but when favorably located said to yield handsomely.

The necessity of selecting the earliest possible varieties for cultivation in this latitude, has the present year been forcibly illustrated to many of our farmers. Even the Dutton corn, early as that is acknowledged to be, when compared with common corn, has been found in many instances too tardy in ripening to escape the frosts which fell in some of the most exposed sections of this district. We have this fall seen a field of this corn, and the variety called the eight rowed yellow early Canada, which showed the difference of ripening between the two, and also furnished a curious illustration of the important part performed by the silk in the impregnation of the grain. Ears, the cob of which was large and perfectly formed, but which had just shown the silks at the frost of Aug. 5th, could be found in considerable numbers, without a single filled kernel upon them; the freezing of the silks entirely preventing fecundation.

Large Turnep.

Mr. Zera Burr of Perrinton in this county, has shown us a Turnep, raised on his farm this season, which weighs *eighteen and a half pounds*, and measures *two feet ten inches* in circumference. It is of the kind known as the White Norfolk, and is a fair handsome round turnep. Who can beat this?

Mr. B. has also shown us some of the Orange or Field Carrots, cultivated under very unfavorable circumstances, weighing from two and a half to three pounds.

Meteorolgy.

The feature of our autumns that most attracts the attention of those that come among us from abroad, as well as observing men among ourselves, is the peculiar brilliancy which illumines the heavens at the hour of sunset for some time during the fall months, and which can scarcely be accounted for, unless it be considered as connected in some way with the electric or magnetic state of the atmosphere during the changes that occur between the fervid heat of summer and the cold of winter. The beauty may be and unquestionably is, in a great measure depending on the reflection of the setting sun's rays from those immense mirrors the American lakes; yet as this reflection exists at all seasons, the splendor so peculiar to our September and October sunsets, must be sought in a good degree in atmospheric causes.

The researches of Hansteen, Amici, Metcalf and others, have shown the close if not actual identity of caloric and electricity, and the experiments of Crosse, Henry, Silliman and Hare, have demonstrated that electricity and magnetism are the same, or that under like circumstances the same results are obtained from both. That the unrivalled beauty of our sunsets in autumn may be traced to this mysterious agency, is rendered probable from the facts that after these brilliant phenonema of the heavens begin to appear, thunder and lightning cease in our latitudes, and that the Aurora borealis which is rarely seen here from the time the sun obtains the ascendancy in the spring, now makes its reappearance with renewed brilliancy and frequency. This has been particularly observable the present autumn. We do not remember ever to have seen so many beautiful and golden sunsets in a single season as we have witnessed the present one; and when these have been the most resplendent, and the air the most bright and glowing, scarcely has twilight come on ere the merry dancers have been streaming over the northern horizon, lasting with varying brightness the most of the night. Such days and such nights as we sometimes see in autumn, almost justify the expression used by a somewhat enthusiastic young friend of ours not long since, that to him autumn was the heaven of the year.

The tops of the hills about Franklin, in Venango county, Pa., were completely mantled with snow on the morning of October 17. In some parts of the county it was two inches deep, and did not disappear for two days.

On the Use of Lime in Raising Wheat.

Lime is not only a necessary ingredient in every soil, which is intended to produce a vigorous and profitable vegetation, but it is wanted to compose a part of the substance of certain plants, and wheat is one of the number. No plant can grow in a soil which is entirely destitute of the earthy ingredients which must constitute its substance; and lime is found by chemical analysis, always to exist in wheat, both in the straw and in the kernel.

It is well known that the lands in New-England, which are at all suitable for any kind of grain or root crop, will produce good crops of wheat, when first cleared from their native growth of wood. But after having been tilled some years, such lands yield wheat with difficulty, and it is often found impossible to raise it by any of the modes commonly adopted for wheat culture. In process of time, the soil appears to lose its faculty for producing wheat, and our farmers think themselves forced nearly or quite to forego its culture.

The same variations have likewise been observed in Europe. Wheat countries, by continued cultivation, have become almost incapable of yielding wheat. The cause and remedy of this partial barrenness, this falling off as regards particular plants, were alike involved in obscurity, till modern discoveries in chemistry threw light on the subject. It has been found that the texture of every soil is defective, unless there is a mixture of three kinds of earth, viz: clay, sand, and *lime;* and that lime in some of its combinations, exists in wheat, both in the straw and in the kernel. In some soils, fertile in other respects, lime may either have no existence, or be found in very minute portions, and be soon exhausted. If lime be a necessary constituent of wheat, and does not *naturally* exist in the soil in which we attempt to raise wheat, it must be supplied by *art*, or wheat will not grow. Or, if native lime exists in the soil in small quantities, the land may bear wheat till the lime is exhausted, and then become incapable of producing that plant till a fresh supply of lime, marl, pulverized bones, or some other calcareous substance is added.

John Young, Esq., in an able work entitled *Letters of Agricola*, p. 290, states as follows, viz:

"It cannot be denied that since the plentiful use of lime has been adopted,* land in Europe will produce wheat, which otherwise were incapable of bearing it. The rye lands of Herefordshire, which were reported by Dr. Beale, in the year 1636, as incapable of producing wheat, have been so much fertilized by the subsequent introduction of this fossil manure as to be successfully applied to the growth of that and every other grain. This and similar effects may be referable in part to the subserviency of this earth in the more perfect formation of the vegetable structure; for we know that all birds, if confined in a cage and denied all access to lime, will lay eggs with soft shells. So wheat may labor under some such analagous imperfection, unless the carbonate of lime comes within the range of its roots."

Dr. Anderson, a celebrated British writer on agriculture, gives an account of a field, which had a top dressing of lime for the purpose of raising wheat, but the lime by accident was not applied to a small patch in the field, and in that patch there was no crop, while every part of the field to which the lime was applied, produced fine wheat. It would be easy to adduce many more instances to prove that lime in Great Britain is considered not only useful, but indispensable for the production of wheat. A British farmer, we believe, never undertakes to raise wheat without the use of lime as a manure, and American farmers, (unless a great change has recently taken place in that branch of husbandry,) rarely make any use of lime as manure for wheat. —*N. E. Farmer.*

The Salt Springs at Tettabawassa, Michigan, are equal to any in that state. The peninsula of Michigan probably lies on a substratum of rock salt, the deposite of the saline ocean that once rolled over al the west beyond the Alleganies.

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* Marshall's Review of the County Reports to the Board of Agr., vol. 2. p. 247.

History of Fairs.

The growing popularity of FAIRS for the Exhibition and Sale of Agricultural and Mechanical Products, renders particularly interesting the following account of their origin and progress in this country.

The increase and variety of the manufactures of Western New York—the richness of its Agriculture—and the enterprising spirit of the people generally—combine to urge us to propose for the consideration of our citizens the propriety of making calculations for holding Fairs in Rochester—which from the facilities of communication, may be considered sufficiently central. Such exhibitions and sales excite emulation among the producers of the articles exhibited—while they arouse public attention to a proper estimate of the important interests which are thus brought in review.

Such projects require considerable time for maturity; and this which we here present is respectfully submitted for the consideration of those enlightened citizens who are usually most efficient in promoting the public welfare by encouraging every thing calculated to arouse the energies of the Farmers and Mechanics—the substrata of our national greatness.

From the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

Let us take a cursory view of the different fairs which have been held within the last half century, in the eastern section of the country, where they originated. In the southern and western parts of the United States, with the exception of the cities of Philadelphia and Baltimore, none have taken place, at least so far as our knowledge extends. In the former metropolis praiseworthy efforts have been made by the Franklin Institute, to introduce public exhibitions of domestic manufactures, and every thing connected with science and the arts.—These exhibitions have now been crowned with the success which their projectors anticipated, and which they in reality deserved. The American Institute extends to their future, as it has to their former efforts, the right hand of fellowship; and whatever may be necessary to their aid will be cheerfully awarded. In Baltimore, last year, an effort was made to introduce into that city a fair, but we are informed that it proved an unsuccessful one.

The first fairs which ever came to the knowledge of the writer, in this country, were held in Londonderry, in New-Hampshire. This village was first settled near or quite a century ago, by a party of highly respectable and intelligent pilgrims from the west parts of the Emerald Isle; and from that stock have arisen some of the most eminent men of whom we can boast. We could name many of them, but one will answer our purpose. We allude to the Rev. Joseph McKeen, for seventeen years the learned and eloquent pastor of the first church in Beverly and afterward the president of Bowdoin College, in Maine. His fame was in all the churches, and his life was one of usefulness and honor. The name of an *American* 'Derry Irishman passes as current in the New England states, as a note of the Bank of the United States, previous to the removal of the deposites.

In Londonderry, or 'Derry, as it was called in those days, there was held, a little antecedent to "Thanksgiving," an annual fair, after the manner of those of Enniskerry in Ireland, at which all the country flocked to a focus, bringing with them the products of their industry, and the superfluity of their household goods, to be exchanged, bartered, and sold. These fairs lasted three days, at the termination of which, the Irish and the yankee customs were gently intermingled. The reel, the country dance, and all the sports incident to those portions of either country, were introduced. Parties were given, suppers were served up, mutual acquaintances were made, felicitations were receiprocated, lovers' vows were exchanged, marriages took place; and the results of these fairs were a sturdy race of husbandmen, whose superiors it would be difficult to find.

A word farther in relation to the fairs of Londonderry. They were established under a statute law of New Hampshire. We believe they are now discontinued. The last we have any positive knowledge of, was in 1807, thirty years ago, at which there were computed to be from 7,000 to 10,000 persons present. There were in exhibition, besides numerous horses, sheep, &c. 500 head of neat cattle.

In 1619, the first field of potatoes raised in America was planted in Londonderry. In the same year the foot linen wheel was there likewise introduced. At the Londonderry fairs, the first premium, in this country, was awarded for an exhibition of merino sheep.

After a long interval of time, during which miniature fairs were extended in all parts of the Eastern states, but which were not attended with any special benefit to the community, the Massachusetts Agricultural Society opened the great fair at Brighton, which was annually celebrated for nearly twenty years. It is not necessary to speak of the immense advantages to that and the neighboring states, which accrued from those fairs. They stand recorded as a proud monument to their authors.

If it were not invidious to call by name the grand projector, the *field marshal*, the life and soul of the great project, we should say that the Hon. John Lowell, of Roxbury, deserves more of his country, for his indefatigable industry, his scientific, theoretic and practical knowledge, than all his compeers in the premises. By his example, a stimulus was given, which extended to all the practical yeomanry in Massachusetts, cheerfully backed by the intelligence and wealth of the counti s of Suffolk, Essex, Norfolk, Middlesex, Worcester, &c. Such men as the venerable Pickering, the Parsonses, father and son, the Derbys, the Princes, and a host of kindred spirits, lent their money, their aid, and their counsel to the cause; and the beneficial effects arising therefrom are now fully developed. Massachusetts stands behind none in the excellence of all thar pertains to agriculture.

Almost simultaneously with the Brighton fairs were held others in that section of the country, among the most distinguished of which were those of Essex county, and Rockingham in New Hampshire. They all tended to the same effect, and their results were precisely what were expected and intended to follow.

During the last month, a fair, on a different principle, has been held in the old cradle of liberty, in the city of Boston. Stimulated by the exertions and the success of the American Institute of New York ing inhabitants of that metropolis and the surround- the country have followed in its wake. Every nerve was strung and every power of the artisan was placed in requisition, to make the fair worthy the occasion and the ancient metropolis. Nor did it fail. It was the pride of the Eastern country. No less than seventy thousand visitors attended and its receipts were more than twelve thousand dollars, which, after defraying the expenses of the exhibition, were distributed in premiums to competitors.

Ten years since, the American Institute of the city of New York determined, after mature deliberation of its managers, to introduce into this city an exhibition of the domestic manufactures of the country. The plan was no sooner determined on than adopted. A vigorous effort was made by the young and enterprising members. They made a rally among the artisans of the city, and a very efficient fair was, in a few days thereafter, held at Masonic Hall.

Such was the success at this exhibition, that the Institute determined to hold others each succeeding year; all of which have been attended by crowds from all parts of the country. A new era commenced after six years, and the fairs were transferred to Niblo's Garden, at the corner of Broadway and Prince street.

A wider scope was here given for the display of every article connected with the mechanic arts, agriculture and machinery. Artists from various parts of the country here deposited their products for exhibition and competition, and the fairs of 1834 and 1835 were crowned with such success, as to induce the managers to hold out farther inducements, including gold and silver medals, diplomas, &c., as prizes for the best articles brought together at the present and future exhibitions.

At the fair of 1836, the ninth from the commencement, a magnificent display was made, including almost every possible article of handicraft work, and agricultural products. A steam engine was placed in operation, which propelled a multitude of machines, brought from the interior of the state, and many places in New England, besides those invented and manufactured in the city. There were more than twelve thousand articles in exhibition; the fair lasted nine days; more than sixty thousand visiters attended; and twenty-eight gold, and one hundred and thirty silver medals, besides more than two hundred diplomas, were awarded. The receipts for tickets amounted to over $6,200.

Culture of the Morus Multicaulis, Silk Worm, &c.

MR. ROBERTS—The following paper on the subject of Morus Multicaulis, Silk, &c., has been drawn up in consequence of the numerous applications made to me for information on the various branches of the subject; and for the purpose of correcting numerous errors that continually pervade the public press. Every word I write is founded upon my own experience. Another object in drawing up this paper, is to endeavor to rescue the credit of many valuable improvements in the business, which have been filched from the author of them.

There can be no doubt with those who have made themselves acquainted with the qualities of the various varieties of the mulberry, that the New Chinese *Species*, or Morus Multicaulis, is the best for feeding silk worms. I estimate the comparative value of the Morus Multicaulis and the best White or Italian variety, as one to two; that is, I consider the Morus Multicaulis worth one hundred per cent. more than the White Italian. It saves nine-tenths of the labor in gathering the leaves, on account of their being at least ten times the size of those of the White. One pound of Morus Multicaulis leaves contains one-third more nutritive matter than a pound of the best White mulberry leaves; the reason of this being, there is very little woody fibre in the Morus Multicaulis leaves, and in the best White there is a very large portion, all of which passes off in the form of excrement. The Morus Multicaulis affords leaves, and is not injured by the loss of them the first season—all they require is a few to be left on the tops and ends of the branches. The White requires to be 3 or 4 years old before it can be used. The Morus Multicaulis is perfectly hardy, when grown on its own peculiar and natural soil, which is light, dry and not over rich. On low rich soils, their growth is protracted to so late a season that they do not ripen their wood, and of course they are killed to the ground in winter. I have uniformly grown them on high dry rather sandy soil, and never lost a branch or a bud; while others, who planted them on low alluvial rich soils, have lost them every winter. Mr. Robert Sinclair, in the Farmer of the 8th of August, inst. gives the result of an experiment he tried last year in cultivating them on high ground, in which they proved perfectly hardy; whereas heretofore when he planted them on low rich soil, they had been killed down by the frost of winter. Mr. Sinclair forgot to state that this was an *old practice* with me, and that I had frequently remonstrated with him for planting them in this low rich ground. He states that this was an "experiment," leaving the public to infer that it originated with him; whereas he was well aware that I had long practised it with invariable success, and had frequently recommended it to him as well as to the public.

The Morus Mulricaulis is propagated with more facility than any other kind. A piece of last year's growth an inch long, with only one bud, is all that is wanted to make a tree 5 or 6 feet high in one season. Make a hot bed in the ordinary way, as for raising cabbage plants, about the 1st to the middle of March; take the limbs that grew last year, cut them in pieces, with one bud on each piece, stick them into the bed in a slanting position, inclining to the north with the bud on the south side, its point just even with the surface of the soil; water them every evening, shade them when the sun is powerful in the middle of the day, and about the 1st of May they will be about the size of cabbage plants, and ready to be set out where they are to grow; take them up as you do cabbage plants, set them out, water them freely for a few days, put a cabbage leaf or any such thing over them for a day or two to shade them, and they will grow off, and form fine trees 4 to 6 feet high the same season. This has always been my method of propagating them, and the plan originated with me. I was surprised to find last year, Mr. Sinclair endeavored to obtain the credit of suggesting this method of propagating

Morus Multicaulis trees. He published in the Farmer and Gardener and other papers that he had succeeded in propagating them from single buds, and in this, as in the case above noticed, leaving the public to infer that he was the discoverer of the new method, when the fact is that *I instructed him in the whole process.* It is to me a matter of no moment in a pecuniary point of view, for my only object is and has been the furtherance of my country's interest in this respect; but it is rather mortifying, after laborious experiments and study,—working for nothing and finding one's self, to have even the *credit* of our labors and discoveries filched from us.

In extending the mulberry orchard, take the whole top of the tree raised as above last year, cut off 3 or 4 inches from the ground, cut it up and plant the cuttings as above. The old root will send up half a dozen shoots, each of which will be as large as the whole tree was before it was cut down, and thus furnish more cuttings for the next year.

If the trees are raised on the proper soil, they will want no protection; if they are growing on low rich, or any low soil, they must be taken up in the fall, and "laid by the heels," either in a dry cellar or a shed open to the south. Lay them in a slanting position, close together, burying the roots perfectly in the ground.

If cuttings are desired to be kept through the winter, the best way is to dig a hole in some high dry place and bury them a foot or two in the ground. They may be kept also by being wrapped in green live moss from the swamps, and placed in an ordinary cellar. I have kept them all winter in my office by tying them in a close bundle and setting the butt ends in a basin of water so that the water covered about an inch of the ends. In this way they were not only preserved, but the buds began to grow too soon, from the warmth of the office.

Many persons recommend that the trees be cut down to within three inches of the ground, and the stumps covered to protect them, and feeding silk worms from the leaves of the young shoots. This is a bad practice, and should not be followed—besides, it is not necessary, as properly cultivated in a proper soil, as above stated, they want no protection. The objections to the practice are—the lateness of the season before the shoots will be large enough to afford a sufficient supply of leaves: and the succulence of the leaves from these young shoots. Both these objections render the practice inadmissible—your worms will starve to death before the shoots will afford leaves; and if you *can* keep them alive till leaves are produced you will be very apt to lose them by disease, produced from feeding them with the too succulent leaves.

The Morus Multicaulis cannot be propagated to any extent from seed, simply because the trees produce so little that it will not pay for saving even if it sold at its weight in diamonds. The whole of the seed that has been sold for some years in this country, as Morus Multicaulis seed, was spurious, and I was so well aware of its spurious character that I have never bought or used a grain of it. I have used all my influence to prevent my friends and correspondents from being imposed upon by it; but unfortunately, self-experience is the only school for some people. I assert that no genuine Morus Multicaulis seed can be offered for sale here or elsewhere; and time will prove the truth of the assertion. I would not be uncharitable, but I verily believe that the idea of the Morus Multicaulis was a variety and not a species, and therefore that its seed would not produce its like, originated with those who were engaged in speculating in "Morus Multicaulis seed," and that its object was to cover the imposition of other seed upon the public for Morus Multicaulis seed. As it produced all sorts of mulberry trees, except Morus Multicaulis, it was desirable to attempt an excuse. And this was resorted to—lame and impotent as it is. I assert positively that it is a distinct species, that its seed produces its like exactly, as I can at any time satisfy any person having trees raised from seed myself. But it is of little importance whether the seed will produce the true Morus Multicaulis or not, as the seed cannot be obtained. I have the oldest tree in America, and it never produces good seed enough to make it an object worthy of notice; besides the trouble of keeping weeds down, &c. and the ease with which it is multiplied by cuttings, would prevent my using seed if ever so abundant and cheap.

There are many mulberry trees in this country called Morus Multicaulis, that are not the true kind. I have seen hundreds of such. They are the broad leaved variety of the white mulberry. The Morus Multicaulis differs entirely from all others in several respects. Its specific name points out one of its peculiar characters, viz. *multicaulis.* While all others form single bodied trees, the multicaulis continues sending up new stalks from the crown of the root, and thus growing in clusters of bushes like the lilac, hazle, &c.—hence the name multicaulis, *many stalked.* The leaves are not only larger than any other kind, but their form is different from all others. The leaf is invariably *bowled*, so much so that it is impossible to spread it out flat without tearing the sides. This form is not seen very conspicuously in the young seedling, but as soon as the plants get a foot or two high and the leaves attain half their proper size, it is very distinct. The leaves are so large that they always hang pendulous, when full grown, and somewhat folded lengthwise. These peculiarities will enable any one to distinguish the true tree from all others.

Let me advise purchasers of multicaulis trees to be cautious in receiving budded or grafted trees. They are worth nothing but for cuttings, their roots are of no use; while those on their own roots have the advantage of the roots to furnish new supplies of cuttings from year to year. Budded and grafted trees also may be lost altogether by the perishing of the tops in transportation; while if the whole top of a tree on its own roots perishes, only the cuttings of one year will be lost, the root will live and furnish abundance of cuttings for another year.

No other preparation of the ground is necessary than turning it over once to destroy grass and weeds and then keeping the ground clean during their growth. The poorest ground need not be manured, though it would be best if in tolerable condition. Any ground that would produce ten bushels of corn to the acre, will be good enough for them. The fall season is the best time to obtain the trees, and the spring the best to plant them out. I would recommend them being obtained in the fall and kept "laid by the heels" till April, and then set in their proper places. The reason they ought to be obtained in the fall is, that they may be ready to set out at the proper season in the spring; whereas, if not obtained till spring, various accidents and delays may cause them to come too late, and they may thus be lost or retarded in their growth, so that the next winter may injure them.

SILKWORMS—A radical error of our countrymen in commencing the culture of silk, is their beginning at the wrong end. Almost all of them obtain a supply of silkworm eggs first, and then go in search of mulberry leaves to feed the young worms with. Because the forest is full of the native mulberry, and the fields studded with white mulberry trees, they think they can readily obtain a sufficient supply of leaves for two or three hundred thousand worms "to begin with;" and so they can for the first two or three weeks, but during the 3d, 4th and 5th week, when the worms eat almost their own weight of leaf every day, and when it is absolutely necessary to the full accomplishment of their object that they should have a full supply of fresh leaves continually before them, the supply fails; the labor of gathering a sufficient quantity from trees scattered through the woods and almost inaccessible from their height, is found to be insurmountable, and the worms are stinted in their food, dwindle along 3 or 4 weeks more half starved, and at last spin an imperfect cocoon that is good for nothing. Many persons do worse than this, when the worms enter their fourth stage and consume a full quantity of leaf, they are abandoned altogether and starve to death. Millions upon millions of these interesting insects have perished in this way within my own knowledge. Some years since I visited a person a few miles from the city, who had been boasting of his large number of worms a week or two previously. I found them scattered over the floor, walls and ceiling of the large room, wandering about in search of food, and half famished. He said he found he could not get leaves to feed a tenth part of them, and had abandoned them in despair. There must have been a million at least. They all perished. He never could have obtained leaves enough to feed 50,000 worms from all the trees within his reach.

The proper way is to secure a convenient mulberry orchard. It should be as near the laboratory as possible, and should be sufficiently extensive to supply twice the number of worms you calculate on keeping, as a security against accidents, &c. After you have secured the mulberry trees then obtain the silkworms. If you have no experience with them begin with ten thousand; and the next year increase the number. Ten thousand worms will be enough to learn you how to manage a larger number, and they will furnish cocoons enough for you to learn to reel silk with, and a sufficient supply of eggs for another year. Use all these cocoons to learn to reel with—don't try to make the finer qualities of silk, but learn to reel any thing. The object is to "get the use of your tools." Learn to catch the fibre and join it with the thread expeditiously; adapt your sense of touch in the fingers to the extremely fine fibre that you may be able to *feel it;* enable yourself to understand the proper temperature of the water for dissolving the gum of the cocoons, that you may be able to make the fibre run or unwind well. All these little details, simple when understood, and easily acquired, but absolutely necessary to a good reeler, are to be learned only from practice,—patient, persevering practice, unchecked by feelings of interest or fear of losing cocoons. But a few weeks, even a few days, are sufficient for the accomplishment of the object.

It is not my purpose now to give instructions in the whole art of reeling, or managing silk worms, that object has been fully accomplished in various publications in the Farmer, in pamphlets, and books. The present paper is merely intended to supply deficiencies in other publications, to call attention to some prominent points, and to correct certain errors.

Let me urge attention to cleanliness in the laboratory, essential to the comfort and health of the proprietor and his assistants, as well as to the success of his business. Always keep a box or some other vessel of chloride lime in the room with the worms. A jar with a pound or two of it standing open, will keep the air in the room sweet, and thus protect the worms from disease. If from inattention your worms become affected with the *Tripes*,* lose not a moment in sprinkling the floor with a solution of chloride of lime, and set saucers of it in various places. It will speedily cure those that are sick, and prevent any further extension of the disease.

This remedy for the Tripes is also my own discovery. It was published in the American Farmer, and the Farmer was regularly received by several members of the society of Ag. Science in Paris; notwithstanding which, many months after its publication in the Farmer, a paper was read before that society giving the details of the important discovery by a citizen of France, that chloride of lime was a sure remedy for the *Tripes.* However, it matters little to the public who is entitled to the credit of so important a discovery, so long as that public has the advantage of it. But I would suggest that there will be little encouragement to laborers in the fields of scientific discovery, if they are to derive *neither* interest nor credit from the results. The public is so prone to forgetfulness on this subject, that most discoverers now-a-days resort to patents to enforce their claims, and if the public will not be voluntarily just, it seems no more than proper that some such process should be adopted.

In their anxieties for improvements, those who enter upon the silk business are too apt to adopt useless if not injurious innovation. There are many parts of the French and Italian practice that may well be improved, some of which are useless & some few ridiculously so. But we must not infer thence that their whole practice is wrong, and that we are capable of substituting an entire new one. Among all our experimenters we find no one that tries the

*The *Tripes* is a disease among silkworms analagous to the plague in the human family. It is caused by foul air, in the room generally in damp weather. The foul air proceeds from putrifying vegetable substances, such as stale leaves, &c. The first symptom shows itself in the worms ceasing to eat, throwing their heads back, and becoming of a black color. They soon turn quite black and die in an hour or two, and mortify in another hour, when they smell very badly. The disease will spread over the largest establishment in 24 hours, if not suppressed by the free use of chloride of lime.

brush or twigs universally used by the French and Italians for the worms to climb and spin their cocoons on. We are continually inventing new plans for this part of the work, such as building frames, &c. But it seems to me that the simple brush that has answered the purpose for hundreds of years in other parts of the world, might be safely adopted in this. I have escaped this symptom of the mania so far as only to propose the use of *broom-corn brush*, as being more convenient and simple than the brush of the French. It answers the purpose admirably with me.

Again, our people are endeavoring to make themselves and the public believe that we can produce successive crops of silkworms in the same season, so that the work of producing cocoons may be extended through the whole summer instead of being confined to about six weeks in May and June. If this could have been profitably done, the Frencch and Italians would have long since found it out; but we are not left with the conjectural uncertainty of an *if;*—it was fairly tried years ago, and resulted, as any body but one gifted with the sanguinary mind of a new beginner might have known, in an unprofitable expenditure of time and labor. The eggs may be forced to hatch the same season they are produced; but it is unnatural, and they hatch so irregularly that a profitable result cannot be obtained.*

I see by the newspapers that one of our new beginners has discovered and taken under his care a new species of silkworm, an American Silkworm, whose cocoon is some eight or ten times as heavy as that of the common,—and from which he expects to produce wonderful results. Many years since many of these American silkworms were sent to me from the South and the North—from the East and the West; and I was then, as he is now, elated at the idea of introducing this new and valuable improvement in the silk business; but the worms would not feed kindly, the moths flew away as soon as they escaped the cocoons, and the cocoons could not be reeled. Worse than that, even when reeled the silk was coarse and harsh. Nothing that I could think of would dissolve the gum of the cocoons, even with 24 hours soaking. Of course I let the moths fly away. There are several varieties of worms that make cocoons in this country, but it does not follow that the fibre of those cocoons is as valuable as that of the true silk worm.

The best and simplest hurdle for the accommodation of silkworms is that suggested in my Treatise published in 1830 in the American Farmer, and in pamphlet form, and which I have always used when I had worms. It is made as follows—a frame 5 or 6 feet long and 3 wide, made of plank 2 inches wide and 1 1-2 thick; like the outside of a window sash; make holes through both side and end pieces with a brad awl about three eighths of an inch apart; pass strong twine through the holes lengthwise and then crosswise, and thus form a net work bottom for the hurdle. This will allow the dung of the worms to fall through upon a similar frame with a paper bottom that should be placed under it. It saves a good deal of labor in cleaning off the litter, and permits air to pass up among the worms and leaves.

I perceive that this hurdle is also claimed by our ingenious countrymen at the East as of their *invention*. Pity that their ingeniousness did not equal their ingenuity.

It is a common error to suppose that the young worms require young and tender leaves to feed on. They, on the contrary, eat the most mature leaf with as much greediness when a day old as they do when full grown. The French recommend cutting the leaves into small pieces, and have a knife for this purpose; this practice I found injudicious, as the worms press upon the mass and make as it were a carpet of it. I prefer laying on the leaves whole—the worms will speedily cut them up for themselves. This practice is only equalled by the French recommendation to separate the male and female moths after having been together six hours in the act of copulation. Following their directions, for in those times I had no other guide than the French books, I separated my moths after six hours, and to my mortification one half my eggs were *not fecundated*. After that I allowed my moths to take their own course in this affair, and all my eggs were thenceforth good.

In conclusion, I would recommend those who desire to enter upon the silk business, in the first place to secure a supply of Morus Multicaulis trees, and to establish an orchard; then go ahead – leaving experiments and improvements upon the well known and successful methods and furniture to be suggested by experience as they progress.

GIDEON B. SMITH.

*Since the above was written I have learned that some gentleman in New Jersey are enabled to prolong the season of feeding worms, by keeping the eggs in an ice house and bringing out portions as they want them through the summer. If put into an ice house immediately after they are produced, and kept there, this plan may answer the purpose; but if put there on the approach of warm weather in the Spring they will hatch, even in the midst of the ice, as I know from experience.

From the Ohio Farmer.

Meadows.

It has been remarked by the writers on agriculture, that *natural meadows* are no where to be found; because all grass land which is in a state of nature, neither enclosed nor cultivated, is universally pasture. Many centuries probably elapsed, before the invention of preserving grass by drying it into a state of hay; and this discovery, which gave rise to what we now term meadow, is supposed to have preceded that of tillage; though this may be considered somewhat doubtful, when we reflect that, in the primitive state of husbandry in this country, the cattle which were intended for consumption during the winter, were slaughtered in the latter end of autumn and salted for use. To such tracts of ground as consist of maiden earth, some persons are still diposed to limit the extent of meadow land; but generally speaking, all land that is annually, or even occasionally mown, is at present known under the denomination. Some considerable tracts of marsh have never yet been submitted to the plough, and much land, which, lying on the banks of rivers, is subject to be occasionally overflowed, is still in a virgin state; but by far the greater part of the upland meadow throughout the kingdom, bears evident marks of having been anciently under cultivation.

The *general management of meadow land*, lies in a narrow compass—little diversified by practice, except when rendered necessary by difference of season and quality of soil. As the early vegetation of grass is promoted by taking the stock soon off the ground, the uplands are usually "hayned," or laid up at Candlemass; but richer land is often left open until the latter end of March; sometimes, indeed, particularly if the weather be moist, even later; but if continued too long, the hay harvest is proportionally retarded and diminished. On this subject, Mr. Sinclair has stated that a given space of the same quality of grass having been cut towards the end of March, and another space of equal size left uncut until the last week in April, the produce of each being afterwards taken at three different cuttings, that of the space last cut exceeded the former in the proportion of three to two; and in one instance during a dry summer, the last cropped space exceeded that which was cropped (first) as two to one. On land of the latter description care should be taken to remove the heavy cattle in autumn, for such ground being commonly of a loamy nature, and soon softened by a fall of rain, would otherwise be poached, and it is well known that in wet weather the hoofs of bullocks form holes which hold water, and thus render the herbage sour.

After the hay has been removed, the meadows are generally shut up for some weeks, until the grass again springs, when the stock are turned upon them in such proportion as they appear able to bear during the autumn; though light store stock are sometimes turned in immediately to crop such spots around the margins and in the water furrows, as may have escaped the scythe. Other farmers, however, reserve it during winter, and then use it in the manner already stated in the preceding account of fogging. Some, also, live in the neighborhood of large towns, where they have the advantage of procuring manure, mow the land a second time, sometime in the month of August; but in that case, they should be earlier than usual in the first crop. Cow-keepers, indeed, frequently cut it two or three times in the summer, as they find that rowen hay is of a soft, grassy quality, which occasions a greater flush of milk than that which is first mown, though it does not increase its richness, and they therefore cut the grass long before the seed has time to ripen. This frequent mowing, however, if it does not exhaust the soil, has a tendency to reduce the herbage; an injury to which new meadows are more exposed, than such as are old; and, therefore, land recently laid down to grass should not be mown, but pastured with very light stock, during the two first years as the surer method of furnishing it with luxuriant herbage.

After the cattle are removed, the land is *bush-harrowed and rolled*. The bush-harrow spreads those small portions of mould which are thrown upon the surface by the earth-worms, and are, so far, an excellent dressing, when the separation is properly performed. This, however, is most commonly done by interweaving some strong but pliant branches of trees, hedge row thorns, through the open squares of a heavy harrow, which thus forms an efficient brush, and when drawn over the ground performs its duty perfectly during a short distance; but the branches, being pressed close, and worn by the motion, soon become so flat as not to have the effect of spreading the earth. The best mode is, therefore, to fix the branches upright in a frame placed in the front part of the roller; by which means they can be so placed as to sweep the ground effectually, and when worn can be moved a little lower down, so as to continue the work with regularity. In this manner the bush-harrow can also be drawn by a single horse and driven by one man, instead of employing two horses and two drivers, as is the case when the land is rolled and harrowed separately. The object of rolling is merely to lay the land as smooth as possible for the convenience of mowers, for it is thought by many farmers to retard the progress of vegetation; though there can be little doubt, that if the soil be porous and spongy, the roller will add to its firmness, and give a more substantial bottom to the sward. It has, indeed, been stated that the operation of heavy rolling has been found to add six or seven hundred weight of hay per acre on the produce of the crop.

Rise and fall of families.—Every young man should start in life determined to act upon the motto, *Nil Desperandum* or *don't give up the Ship*. Let him on commencing life, look around him, and see who are the courted and respected of society, and ask from whence they sprang. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred he will find them to be those who at his age, possessed as little of the world's gear, as little of aid extraneous as he himself possesses; men who commenced the world with nothing, and whose advancement in life solely depended upon their own husbandry, frugality, integrity and strict attention to business.

Most young men consider it a great misfortune to be born poor, or not to have capital enough to establish themselves at once in good business; this is a very mistaken notion, for, so far from poverty being a misfortune to him, if we may judge from what we every day behold, it is really a blessing; for the chance is more than ten to one in favor of the success of such a young man over one who starts with plenty of money. Look back twenty years and see who commenced business at that time with abundance of means, and trace them down to the present day. How many of them can now boast of wealth and standing? On the contrary how many have become poor, lost their standing in society, and are passed by their once boon companions, with a look which plainly says, *I know you not*.

In this country, the wheel of fortune is constantly turning, and he who is at zenith this year, may be at nadir next, and excite no surprise. It is seldom that the third or even the fourth generation enjoys property or station in society which was won by the industry of the first. This constant change is the natural result of causes in continual operation. The first generation starts in life poor, but industrious and honest; he resolves to acquire property, and at the same time sustain a character that shall command respect. By dint of long perseverance in business, and the attainment of a high character for integrity and fair dealing, he succeeds, (such a man never fails,) and becomes wealthy. His sons succeed him, perhaps maintain the character of their father, and add to the wealth he left them—they were educated to business, and know how the prop-

erty they enjoy was acquired. But their sons grow up, and from infancy find themselves in the lap of luxury and rocked in the cradle of ease; their minds are never turned on business—that is beneath them—they are engrossed in important nothings; scorn labor; run the rounds of folly; marry light headed and fashionable ladies, who have as sovereign a contempt for laborers, and the useful things of this life as themselves; dash away a few years in their carriages; lose their parents; divide the property; attempt to carry on business; are incapable of managing it; fail—struggle to keep up appearances and their places in fashionable life—are obliged to retire—wretched and miserable at home—and get through the world as they can, carrying always the appearance of shabby gentlemen, and being looked at askance by their former companions. Their children are even more miserable than themselves; being brought up with the idea that labor is degrading; and that they are a superior order, while necessity compels them to resort to some means of getting a living; pride and poverty are at war with them, and they drudge out a miserable and precarious life. —*American Mag.*

To Boil Old Ham.

The boiling of bacon is a very simple subject to comment upon, but our main object is to teach common cooks the art of dressing common food, in the best manner. Bacon is sometimes made as salt as salt can make it; if so, it should be immersed in warm water or parboiled for an hour or two, changing the water once; then pare off the rusty and smoked part, trim it nicely on the underside, and scrape the rind as clean as possible. Give it plenty of water room, and put it in while the water is cold. A middling sized ham of 15 pounds, will be done enough in about 4 or 5 hours, according to its thickness.—*Cook's Oracle.*

ANTIQUE.—The Curators of the Albany Institute acknowledge the donation of a copy in plaster of of the ROSETTA STONE, now in the British Museum, from Henry James, esq. Dr. Clarke, in his travels, states that the French, during their campaign in Egypt, in digging for the fortifications of Fort St. Julian, discovered this stone, near the Rosetta branch of the Nile. "It will ever be valuable," he observes, "even if the only information obtained from it were confined to a solitary fact, namely, that the hieroglyphic characters do exhibit the writing of the Priests of Egypt." This stone was one of the trophies of victory surrendered to Lord Hutchinson, and is now deposited in the British Museum.

The interest of this piece of antiqnity is increased by the fact that all the discoveries of Dr. Young and Champollion concerning the heroglyphic language of Egypt, originated in a study of the inscriptions on it.

DOING GOOD.—In a season of great reverses and real suffering in the mercantile and manufacturing world, there is occasion for the luxury of doing good. The poorest may lessen his neighbor's load. He who has no gold may give what gold cannot purchase. If religion does not make men who profess it, more ready to make others happy, it is a pretence. We are to be judged at the last by the rules. The inquiry is to be especially concerning our conduct towards the sick, the prisoner, the pauper and the foreigner. The neighbor whom we are to love is our next door neighbor: that is, the man who falls in our way. The Samaritan knew this. It was but a small pittance he gave; the poorest amongst us may go and do likewise. Do not allow a townsman or a stranger or even an emigrant, to suffer for lack of endeavors. It will cost you little, but it will do much for him.

FOREIGN GRAIN.—Notwithstanding all accounts agree that we have the most abundant crops thro'-out our borders, we notice the import of foreign grain continues. The ship Morea at Boston from Cronstadt, and Tiber, at this port from the same, both have about 7000 bushels each of rye, and from the rates in Europe, and unparalleled high price here (106 cents for rye,) it yet leaves a fair profit to the importers.—*N. Y. Gazette.*

LIFE PRESERVERS.—The recent melancholy catastrophe of the Home, has brought these valuable articles into notice, and public opinion has rendered them indispensable to every vessel carrying passengers by water, when there is a possibility of their being needed. Are our lake boats supplied with them?

The destruction of human life in this country by wrecks and accidents in steamboat navigation, within the past twelve months, is without a parallel. In the three cases of the Mexico, the Ben Sherrod and the Home, about four hundred human beings have met untimely and awful ends.

THE MURDERED TRAVELLER.

BY WILLIAM C. BRYANT.

When Spring to woods and wastes around
Brought bloom and joy again,
The murder'd traveller's bones were found,
Far down the narrow glen.

The fragrant birch above him hung
Her tassels in the sky;
And many a vernal blossom sprung,
And nodded, careless, by.

The red-bird warbled as he wrought
His hanging nest o'er head,
And fearless near the fatal spot,
Her young the partridge led.

But there was weeping far away,
And gentle eyes, for him,
With watching many an anxious day,
Grew sorrowful and dim.

They little knew, who loved him so,
The fearful death he met,
When shouting o'er the desert snow,
Unarm'd and hard beset:—

Nor how, when round the frosty pole
The northern dawn was red,
The mountain wolf and wild cat stole
To banquet on the dead;—

Nor how when strangers found his bones,
They dressed a hasty bier,
And marked the grave with nameless stones
Unmoistened by a tear.

But long they look'd and feared and wept,
Within his distant home;
And dream'd and started as they slept,
For joy that he was come,

So long they look'd—but never spied
His welcome step again,
Nor knew the fearful death he died
Far down that narrow glen.

Morus Multicaulis.

THE subscriber can furnish large and small quantities of the genuine Chinese mulberry, or Morus multicaulis trees of the most thrifty growth and matured wood. The trees are from two to six feet in height, and will be sold at the lowest prices, in proportion to their size. They will be packed so as to insure safe transportation to any part of the United States. Orders for not less than one hundred will be delivered in New York or Philadelphia, or shipped from thence or from Hartford. October and November are the best months for transportating to the South and West.

SILK WORM'S EGGS, of three varieties, White or Two Crop, Sulphur, and Orange colored. Silk Reels, Brook's Silk Spinning Machines, White mulberry seed, &c. &c.

WM. G. COMSTOCK.

Hartford, September, 1837. sep 23–f6w

REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION.—The subscriber will sell at public auction, at the Eagle Tavern, in the city of Rochester, on the 28th day of November next, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, the following mentioned lands and premises, viz:

122¼ acres of land called the Salisbury Farm, situate in the town of Ridgeway, county of Orleans, subject to a contract for sale to Bethuel Hitchcock;

Also, 100 acres situate in the town of Yates, in the county of Orleans, called the Eaton Farm;

Also, 140¾ acres, situate in the town of Somerset, county of Niagara, called the Whitney Farm, subject to a contract for sale to Otis Hitchcock;

Also 84 acres situate in said town of Somerset, subject to a contract for sale to Ebenezer Pennock;

Also, 480 acres of land situate in the town of Clarkson, county of Monroe, on the triangular tract known as lots No. 9, 10, 11, and 12, in the 3d section of town No. 4;

Also, lot 127, situate on the Manhatten Plat in the city of Rochester.

The above lands will be sold in separate farms, tracts or parcels, for Cash, to the highest bidder. More particular descriptions of the premises can at any time be had, by application to the subscriber, either before or at the sale. sep19alawrts ANSEL FROST.

Chinese Mulberry Trees. &c.

THE subscribers will supply, at reduced rates, the following trees:

200,000 Chinese Morus Multicaulis, of various sizes, at the lowest prices.

20,000 New Chinese Morus Expansa, a seedling variety from the Morus Multicau is, with very large succulent leaves, remarkable for the quantity of nutritious matter. They are engrafted on the White Mulberry, and are hardy enough for the most northern climates, and possess all the advantages of the Morus Multicaulis. These are six feet and upward in height.

3,000 New Hybrid Morus Multicaulis with large leaves and close joints, and 6 to 7 feet in height and very hardy.

100,000 Florence Mulberry, with entire leaves, in which point they differ from the common White Mulberry. These, are imported direct from the best silk districts of France, and are 1 1-2 to 2 1-2 feet in height, and will be sold at very low rates.

50,000 Italian White Mulberry, at very low prices.

Also, 100 lbs. White Mulberry seed.

1000 lbs. yellow and white Sugar Beet seed.

20,000 Brussa Mulberry, 5 to 7 feet high, and 10,000 of less size.

25,000 Chinese Mulberry, so called.

Priced catalogues of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Green House plants, Bulbous Flower Roots, splendid Dahlias and Garden, Agricultural and Flower seeds sent gratis to every applicant.

Orders sent us per mail will receive immediate attention, and forwarded as ordered. Linnæan Garden, Flushing.

WM. PRINCE & SON.

N. B. Companies or individuals desirous to contract for large numbers of Trees, will be dealt with on very liberal terms. sep23

Chinese Mulberry--Morus Multicaulis.

WARRANTED genuine, and the most approved varieties for feeding Silk Worms; among which are the Manilla and Canton Multicaulis, with roots of one, two and three years old.

Also, CUTTINGS, and the Canton Seed bearing tree.—Multicaulis, Asiatic, Chinese, Smyrna and Brussa SEEDLING TREES, may be had at the usual prices, and selected from the Agricultural and extensive Mulberry Nurseries in Northampton, Mass. and vicinity—securely packed and delivered at the Nursery, or forwarded to Boston, Hartford, New-Haven, New-York, Albany, Rochester, Buffalo, Cleveland, Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, St Louis, or any other place within the United States, conformable to order. Some of the above are considered as peculiarly adapted to sustain our hard winters.

Autumn being the best season for removing the trees, letters addressed to the subscriber, post paid, will be promptly attended to, with instructions for management.

D. STEBBINS, *Sec'y Ag. Soc'y.*

Northampton, Sept. 1, 1837.

N. B. Orders for the above (if made in season to beforwarded by the Canal,) will be received by GEORGE W HARWOOD, No. 20, Buffalo-street, Rochester.

sept 30–f3t m2t

Ram Sheep of the pure Kent Breed.

MR. RICHARD GOORD, of Twade near Sittingbourne, Kent, England, having devoted a long life in an endeavor to form a breed of Kent Sheep, (as Bakewell and Ellman have done with the Leicesters and Southdowns,) that should, with great size, combine all he desirable qualities, such as symmetry, hardihood of constitution, propensity to fatten, wool in quantity and of fine quality, &c., so far succeeded as for many years to carry off the prizes at the annual stock shows in Kent, when about two years ago, it being considered that he had, by bringing this breed to such perfection, conferred so great a benefit upon the community at large, a subscription was entered upon by the nobility, gentry, and others, and a most splendid vessel of embossed silver, (that I believe would contain from nine to ten gallons,) mounted on feet, with a handsome and most flattering inscription, was presented to him at a public dinner given for that purpose.

The carcass of this stock, at twenty months old, after being skinned and cleaned, commonly weighs from sixteen to eighteen stones, of 8lbs. to the stone, or 144lbs. When I left Sittingbourne last May, I selected a fine RAM, of the above breed, perhaps the largest sheep with such a combination of good qualities, that ever crossed the Atlantic, and have it now on my farm (lately belonging to Mr. Jacob Pound) at Pittsford, where those desirous are welcome to see him, and may if they please send a few ewes this season at one dollar per head.

S. W. SHOTTER.

Pittsford, Monroe County, N. Y.

Oct. 3, 1837. 13t*

Berkshire & Lincolnshire Pigs for sale.

I HAVE a considerable number of late Spring and Summer Berkshire Pigs, crossed with the Lincolnshire, for sale at Whitney's Distillery in the city of Rochester. The character of the Berkshire breed is somewhat known in this country. I believe the Lincolnshire is but very little, if any. I consider the above cross superior to any breed of hogs in America. I have a pig of the above breed that was four months old the 20th of this month. It was put in a pen alone seven weeks ago, it has been well attended to, the result is that the pig gained from 9 to 11 pounds per week.

P. S The Lincolnshire breed was imported by Gov. Maitland of Upper Canada. AMOS SAWYER.

Rochester, Aug. 26, 1837. aug 26–f7t3t

The Forest Temple.

Lonely, and wild, and vast! Oh! is not here
A temple meet for worship. These tall trees
Stand like encircling columns, each begirt
With the light drapery of the curling vine;
While bending from above their woven leaves
Like shadowy curtains hang. The trembling light
Steals sparkling through, tinged with an added beauty
Of bright and changeful green. Sweeping their tops,
The low deep wind comes with a solemn tone,
Like some high organ's music, and the stream
With rushing wave makes hallowed symphony.
Is not religion here? Doth not her voice
Speak in those deep-toned murmurs? Aye not less
'Tis sweetly uttered in the wild bird's note,
That upwards with its hymn of joy and love
Soars to the clear blue sky. The heaving ground
Robed in its verdant mantle—the cool spring
That gushes forth its joy, and sends abroad
A radiant blessing to the thirsty earth—
The glowing flowers that throng its mossy brink,
Shedding their perfume to the breezes round—
Are redolent of her. Who then would seek
To pour his heart's devotion in a shrine
Less mighty—less majestic? Who would quit
A temple canopied by arching heaven,
Fraught with the melody of heaven's free winds—
Nature his fellow worshipper—to bow
In man's frail sanctuary? Who feels not
In the low forest depths, this still hour,
A thrill of holy joy, that lifts the soul
Above the thoughts of earth, and gives it power
Nearer to commune with its kindred heaven?

Crittenden, or Baden Corn.

Dear Sir:—In compliance with your request, I send you below a minute description of a small piece of corn of a rare and valuable variety; the seed of which were presented to me last spring by the Hon. John J. Crittenden, who brought them from Washington City; and which I propose shall be called the *Crittenden corn*, as a merited compliment to his public spirit in introducing it.

It is a soft white corn of the fourteen rowed variety, with a white cob of middle size in proportion to the grains, which are neither very deep nor very broad. It was originated by Mr. Baden of Maryland,(whose name it bears,) who, by planting from the best top-ears of stalks which produced several ears, through a course of near twenty years, has produced this new variety; the chief peculiarity of which is in producing from two to eight ears upon a stalk.

Mr. Baden directs it to be planted in hills five feet apart each way, and two stalks in a hill; but in order to be sure that the corn should show its peculiarity, I planted it in moderately rich ground, without manure, in hills five feet apart each way, some with two, some with three and some few with four stalks in a hill. I received about a half pint in the grain, and on the 15th of May last I planted it in a situation remote from other corn. The only cultivation which it has received, is three ploughings, one hoeing, and one raking. The ground measures ten by forty yards, about half of which is shaded in the evening by an adjacent woodland, which has obviously diminished the product.

The ground contains sixty-three hills, besides some *missing hills*. The hills contain six hundred and seventy-eight ears, besides some very small nubbins.

This will make an average of between nine and ten ears to the hill.

One hill with three stalks has twelve ears in it, six of which are on one stalk.

One hill of four stalks has seven ears in it.

One hill of three stalks has seven ears, which measure upon average eight inches in length; which I think is not much over the average length of the whole 678 ears. Many of the stalks have four and five ears on them, and many of the hills have seven, eight, nine and ten ears to the hill. The stalks, I think, will average ten feet in height; and the ears are generally about six feet from the ground.

As the manner in which the corn will be gathered, will preclude me from *measuring* the product, I have given the above facts so that those who choose may calculate it. From this experiment I would infer that when planted in rich ground, at the proper season, and fully cultivated, the product cannot fall short of double that of the common corn of the county.

To the farmers of the country, this new variety is certainly of great and unsurpassing value on account of its intrinsic merits, but incomparably more so, because it illustrates the fact that *by pursuing the same mode of selecting our seed corn, we may bring the large yellow corn or large white yorkcheat corn, to the same high state of perfection.* And what a magnificent sight it would be to see a stalk of our large yellow corn bearing six ears, each measuring from 12 to 15 inches in length! and what a glorious immortality awaits that farmer of Kentucky who shall achieve it! Similar has been the fortune of Mr. Baden of Maryland.

The corn has been planted four months, and is now ripening. Five-sixths of it are for distribution, and those who take an interest in it are invited to call, examine and receive it.

A hill of it will be exhibited at the Fair of the Franklin Agricultural Society on the 2nd Wednesday in next month, together with ten or twelve other varieties.

With sentiments of esteem, your friend,
ROBERT W. SCOTT.
Locust Hill, Franklin Co. Ky., Sep. 18 1837.
[*Franklin Farmer.*

Experiment with Potatoes.

Mr. Wm. Clark, jr. of this town, obtained a couple of potatoes at the Saving's Bank, Boston,—not as a *loan*, but as a gratuity,—last winter, from a few just imported from England, which were supposed to be an excellent kind of potatoes. They were laid away and forgotten till they had sprouted, and the sprouts had grown perhaps two inches. To obtain the greatest possible number from them for seed, Mr. Clark disposed of them in the following manner, in his garden. The sprouts, seven in number, were broken from one potatoe, and set out, about sixteen inches apart, with the tops just above the surface, and the potatoe itself planted; the other potatoe was planted with the sprouts on, allowing the tops of them to remain uncovered. After the sprouts from the latter potatoe had grown somewhat, they were spread apart each way, and covered up with soil from their insertion at the hill to near the end of the vines, to make them spread. In doing this, three of the vines were broken off, which were set out and grew. These potatoes were not hilled at all; merely keeping down the weeds was all that was done to them.

Mr. Clark dug the product of these two potatoes last week in our presence, and they yielded as follows:—From the hill in which was planted the potatoe from which the sprouts were taken, was dug 100 potatoes, large and small, many of them very large, and weighing 17 lbs. or over a peck in measure; as the fruit of the seven sprouts, were dug 180 potatoes weighing 35 pounds, making a total of *fifty-two pounds*, or nearly a bushel as the product *of one potatoe.* One of the sprouts produced 36 potatoes, weighing 9 3-4 pounds. The other potatoe produced but 90 potatoes, weighing 14 lbs., the broken vines which were set out producing 20 potatoes, weighing three pounds.

The potatoes very much resemble the long red or merino potatoes, though of not so red a color.

This experiment will afford useful information to those who may wish to propagate rapidly from a few seed; or even when potatoes are scarce for planting.—*Hampshire Gaz.*

Sugar Beet.

Robert Tripp, of Decatur, inquires of us,

1. *If the Sugar Beet is cultivated in the United States?*—It is, in various parts, particularly about Philadelphia and Northampton, Mass. The manufacture is expected to commence this fall.

2. *If it can be made profitable?*—Well managed, it certainly can; but experience can alone teach us good management, and of this, we have as yet but a small stock.

3. *Can it be conducted by individual enterprise, or does it require associate capital?*—The beet culture may be managed by individuals, and with adequate capital and intelligence, so may the manufacture; but as the profit of the culture depends essentially upon a ready market for the roots, or the means of promptly manufacturing them into sugar, the culture and preparation for manufacture ought to be simultaneous.

4. *Can a knowledge of the manufacturing process be obtained without visiting a sugary personally?*—A *sufficient* knowledge, we think, cannot; and indeed we should advise no one to embark largely in it, without the assistance of a manager who has a practical knowledge of the business.

5. *Is the soil of the western prairies adapted to the beet culture?*—If it will grow wheat and corn, it will grow the beet. The rich prairies are undoubtedly well adapted to the beet culture, and the country being very remote from the sea-board, is well adapted to the profitable manufacture of sugar.

6. *Can seeds and machinery be obtained in this country?*—Seeds may be had in all our large towns, at the seed shops. We do not know that machinery for the manufacture of sugar is made in the country, but it probably will be in the course of the coming year. Inquire of the Philadelphia Sugar Beet Company.—*Cultivator.*

Methods of preserving Wood from the effects of the Weather.

Take three parts of air slackened lime, two parts of wood ashes, and one part of fine sand; sift the whole, and add so much linseed oil as is necessary to form a mass that can be laid on with a paint brush. To make this perfect and more durable, it will be well to grind it on a marble. Two coats of it are all that are necessary—the first should be rather light, but the second must be put on as thick as the brush will permit. This composition well prepared is impenetrable to water; resists both the influence of the weather and the action of the sun which hardens it and makes it more durable.—*Anns. des Arts and Man.*

Pruning of the Vine.

A correspondent in the Southern Agriculturist has detailed in that journal, a successful mode which he has practised of training, or pruning the vine. It is to train up only the main stem, taking or pinching off all the lateral shoots, as fast as they appear, in summer, except those bearing fruit, and to pinch these off also above the fruit. In this way his vines bore early and abundantly—the fruit did not rot, but attained high maturity and delicious flavor.

Cushaw and Valparaiso Squashes.

A LOT of these fine winter vegetables, from the garden of H. N. Langworthy, are for sale at the Rochester Seed Store. They will keep a long time, and persons who wish a family supply for the winter, will do well to call and select them soon.

To those who have not tested the qualities of these delicious vegetables, we would say that they are very rich and sweet; when prepared in the usual manner, they are superior to any other kind of squashes, and when cut in pieces and baked in a stove, they resemble very much in flavor the sweet potatoe, for which they are a very good substitute. They are also excellent for 'pumpkin pies.'

We have also, some *seven year*, or long-keeping pumpkins, for making pies next spring and summer. Also, some large *cheese pumpkins* which are very fine, sweet and solid.

REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.
oct 14-f Rochester Seed Store, Arcade Hall.

Fruit Trees For Sale.

THE subscriber respectfully informs his friends and the public that he has for sale at his Nursery in Rochester, Monroe county, state of New York, a large quantity of Fruit Trees, grafted and innoculated with the most approved kinds, now fit for transplanting, which he will sell on the most reasonable terms. SAMUEL MOULSON.
apr 15-tf

N. B. Cash will be paid for a few thousand two years old Apple Trees.

Monroe Horticultural Garden & Nurseries, Greece, Monroe Co., N. Y.

THIS establishment now comprises over 20 acres, covered compactly with Trees and Plants in the different stages of their growth.

The subscriber offers to the public a choice selection of Fruit Trees, of French, German, English and American varieties, consisting of Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, Nectarines, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Grape Vines, Strawberries, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Hardy Roses, Vines, Creepers, Herbaceous Perennial Plants, Bulbous Roots, splendid Pæonies. Double Dahlias, &c. &c.

Also, a large collection of Green House Plants, of choice and select varieties, in good condition.

Orders respectfully solicited. Trees and Plants, when ordered, are carefully selected and faithfully packed, and if desired delivered on the canal one mile from the Nursery, or at Rochester.

Orders for Mr. Rowe's Nursery received by the publisher of this paper.

Catalogues will be sent to every applicant gratis, or may be had by calling at the office of the Genesee Farmer.

April 1, 1837. ASA ROWE.